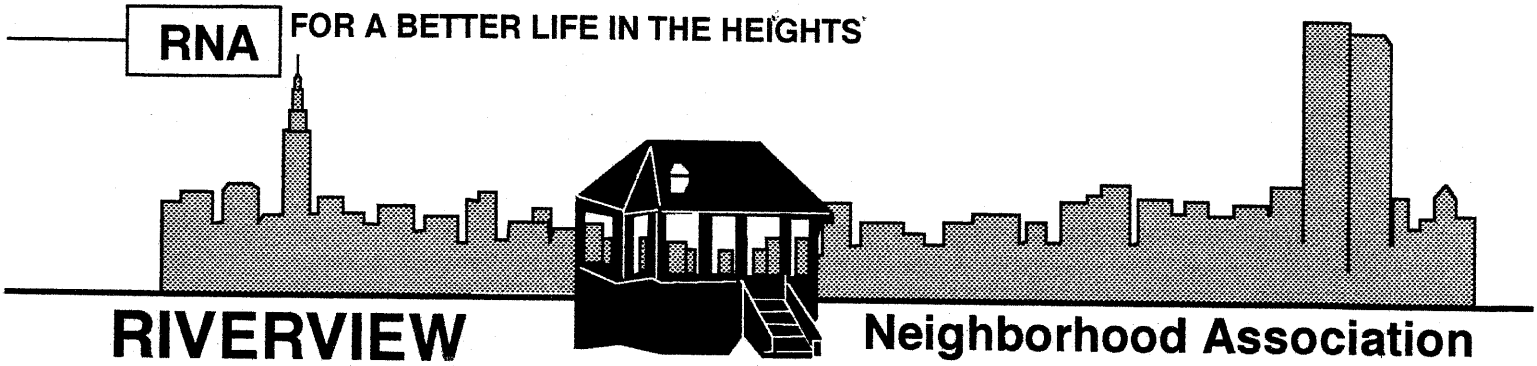
RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS



RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

APRIL 1991

232 Ogden Avenue - Jersey City, N.J. 07307 - (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

MEETING MINUTES

At the March meeting of the RNA, our members were given a brief preview of a new plan by Ward D Councilman Dan Waddleton to displace drug dealers from their hangouts on Palisade Avenue. Part of the plan includes a public rally to take place on April 28th. While plans were still in the making, the councilman has promised full details at the next meeting. (See article on frontpage.)

RNA discussed plans for our annual flea market. The call has gone out for a coordinator for this year's event, and a date of June 15th has been picked for the event.

We also had a surprise guest speaker, the Rev. George Swenson, pastor of the Church of the Ascension, the Episcopal church that burned down on New York Avenue about five years ago. Father Swanson told the group of the current status regarding the rebuilding of the church and the continuing struggle with the Diocese of Newark for the release of the insurance funds necessary for the construction of the new building. He also made the members aware of the on-going services and facilities available at his "Charcoal Chapel". The church is located on south Street between Palisade and New York Avenue. For more information, call 420-0050 or 963-8819.

After there updates of some local matters, the members voted for the officers for the 1991 term. The new officers elected include Vito Brunetti, Marie Lannie, Marie Tuzzo, Jack Rea and Dennis Elgrim.

Please be on hand for the next RNA meeting on April 12th at the Harbor View Health Care Center at 7:30 pm to meet and hear our new police commander of the North District, Captain James Shamburg.

Marie Tuzzo, Secretary

1991 ELECTION OF RNA OFFICERS

The election for the 1991 executive officers of the Riverview Neighborhood Association was held at the March meeting. Vito Brunetti and Marie Tuzzo, who were both unopposed for the offices of Chairperson and Secretary respectively, accepted their positions for another year. Jack Rea and Dennis Elgrim were re-elected to the offices of Treasurer and Sgt.-at Arms, respectively. The only change in the executive group was with the election of Marie Lannie as the Vice-chairperson. Congratulations to all the officers, new and old. May this year be as fruitful and productive as the past years in improving the quality of life for the neighborhood through the efforts of not only the officers of the RNA but the many concerned people in the copmmunity.

ANTI-DRUG MARCH AND RALLY FOR PALISADE AVENUE ON APRIL 28th

Ward D Councilman Dan Waddleton is organizing an anti-drug march and rally on April 28th to take place on Palisade Avenue. The purpose of this event is to let everyone know that the good, hardworking people of the community will no longer be intimidated by the local drugdealers and will not accept what these criminals have done to their neighborhood.

"We are going to have a March and Rally on April 28th to let the people of our community realize they are not alone in fighting this cancer that flourishes in our streets. We will be sending a message to everyone that the Heights wants these individuals to get help or get out of our neighborhoods."

COMING EVENTS

1) RNA MEETING:

FRIDAY, April 12, at 7:30 PM

AT THE HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER

- QUEST SPEAKER: Captain James Shamburg, the newly appointed commander of the North District Police

- Update on the upcoming ANTI-DRUG MARCH AND RALLY, scheduled for APRIL 28th on Palisade Ave.

ANTI DRUG MARCH AND RALLY

"We want our Government, our Police Department, our Prosecutor, and our Judges to know - WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH! As you also care about the quality of life i the Heights we are asking for your support. We need your support to make this event as powerful as possible.

"We will assemble on the corner of Franklin Street and Palisade Avenue at 1:00pm on Sunday April 29th. We will proceed down Palisade to a rally at Riverview Park on Palisade Avenue and Bowers Street. Bring your family as this is something that affects all of our family."

For further information, please call Councilman Waddleton's office at 547-6817.

RNA ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

At the RNA March meeting, the group discussed the upcoming flea market that is annually held in Riverview Park. This year RNA is planning to hold this event on Saturday, June 15th (with a raindate of the following Saturday, June 22nd).

Last year's coordinator, Gert Bogdan, will be unable to organize the event this year because of other commitments. (A personal note, Gert did such an incredible job, that it is going to be hard to find someone to fill her shoes and pull this year's event together.) Therefore, RNA is looking for someone who is willing to volunteer and take charge of this activity. The duties involve getting the necessary permits, advertising for the dealers and for the event itself, taking reservations for tables and places in the Park, coordinating the different work crews and keeping everybody calm!

It is actually a fun and exciting job for someone, either woman or man, who has the time and patience to help the neighborhood with this worthwhile event. The flea market is the RNA's main fundraising event of the year, which is used to publish the newsletter. If anyone is interested in volunteering for this job, please contact either Vito at 798-0493 or Maria at 659-2245. Remember, a neighborhood is only as strong as the people who are willing to help and make it a good place to live.

BINGO PRIZES FOR SENIORS

The Harbor View Health Care Center is looking for donations of items to be used for their bingo prizes for their residents. The items requested are costume jewelry, men or women's scarfs, nik-naks, unisex, one-size-fits-all socks, unused greeting cards and artificial flowers. (All clothing apparel must be new and unused.) If you have any of these requested items to spare, or if you are able to purchase some, please bring them to the Harbor View and leave them at the reception desk on the ground floor.

Harbor View does a great job in helping their residents to enjoy life, inspite of their age or disabilities. Won't you please lend them a hand in these efforts. Thank you, in advance, for you help and support. For more information, please call 963-1800.

CONRAD'S CORNER

Since the war in the Persian Gulf and our economy at home collapsing, our environmentalists seem to have crept into a shell. There doesn't seem to be much talk anymore about pollution, and preservationists seem to be hibernating. All the while this could be a golden opportunity to have the state Green Acres Program take over the Palisades along the Heights in our neighborhood. Real estate values are now down to their lowest in ten years with some thirty percent of development vacant.

There has been so much talk about development by the Chamber of Commerce, real estate developers and politicians but nothing about preserving open space. In fact, the City assessor looks upon any vacant lot as land that should be build on when the opportunity to build becomes profitable again. The thought of keeping some open space in congested areas is never even considered.

It should be part of any planned community to reduce taxes for anyone maintaining vacant land as parkland.

A reduction in taxes for vacant land to about one quarter of the commercial rate could bring about some beautiful landscaped areas at no cost to the City, and provide the necessary vegetation for cleaner air.

All the unplanned development along the waterfront which was supposed to reduce taxes for the inner city has raised them instead and spoiled the beautiful vistas of New York by high rise buildings paying only thirty percent of taxes.

Let's start planning now to preserve open space before we lose what little there is left.

HELP SUPPORT RNA

Don't forget to pay your annual membership dues for 1991. It only costs $3.00 a year to enjoy the benefits of joining Riverview Neighborhood Association. Official membership entitles people living within RNA's boundaries - voting privileges on all matters that are brought before the association at the monthly general meetings (the boundaries are Bowers Street on the north, Palisade Avenue on the west, Ogden Avenue on the east and Cuneo Place on the south).For people living outside the area, membership dues entitle them to receive the RNA monthly newsletter and attend the monthly meetings as active non-voting participants. In general, monies collected from the dues help defray the cost of mailing our monthly newsletter, pay for refreshments, stamps for correspondence and other important or unexpected expenses incurred in running our Association.

Make your check payable to Riverview

Neighborhood Association and mail it to 232 Ogden Avenue, J.C., N.J. 07307. Be sure to include your return address so that your membership card can be sent to you. Better yet, bring it in person to our next meeting, Friday, April 12th at the Harbor View Health Care Center.

INCREASED COST OF NEWSLETTER

RNA has been publishing this newsletter for over the last five years. It is dedicated to the ideal of disseminating information to the local community to apprise the people of issues, problems and matters that will effect their lives. The mailing list has steadily increased till its present number of approximately 450 people. These newsletters circulate through the local RNA neighborhoods, the Heights, Jersey City, Hudson County and even as far as the Governor's mansion in Trenton. (Our two U.S. Senators are also on our mailing list.) RNA believes it is just as important to let people outside, as well as inside, the area know what is going on in this community. This newsletter has grown from one page to sometimes as many as ten pages including a coloring page and a page of local sponsors.

Unfortunately, the cost of this newsletter has steadily increased because of the ever changing mailing rates. RNA has decided to effect a policy to help maintain this local paper. Therefore, at the March RNA meeting, it was decided that we ask all people presently on the mailing list and receiving the newsletter to help defray the cost by paying the annual $3.00 membership fee. If we do not receive, a subscription within two months, we will have to remove the person's name from the mailing list. RNA regrets having to institute this policy but the economics dictate that in order to continue to publish the paper, it is necessary. Thank you for your understanding and we hope your continued support.

April.....

THE MONTH WE SAY GOODBYE TO OUR OILMAN FOR A WHILE,

THE TIME TO BUY FLEA COLLARS FOR OUR PETS,

THE MONTH THE TAX MAN COMETH....

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS,

HAPPY SPRING TO ALL!

Madeline Tuzzo Rea

SUMMER CAMP

The Educational Arts Team, working with the Department of Human Resources, is pleased to announce that they are opening registration for Camp Liberty, 1991. This year's Camp will run for eight weeks, beginning July 1st and ending August 23rd, Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Activities at the camp will include swimming, storytelling, drama, games, music, art, crafts, softball, soccer, basketball, volleyball, sin-a-longs, and much more. Children ages 6-12 may attend.

Camp fees are $50.00 per week for each individual child which includes lunch and transportation. For groups of 10 or more children picked up at the same site, the cost is $40.00 per child. Early registration is advised as last year's amp was sold out well in advance and the limit was 100 children per week.

For information and applications, please call the Educational Arts Team at 432-1911 or 432-1912; or write to the E.A.T., 201 Cornelison Avenue, 6th floor, Jersey City, 07304.

JERSEY CITY RECYCLING

HERE IS THE OFFICIAL LIST OF WHAT IS RECYCLABLE IN JERSEY CITY:

PAPER: NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, CARDBOARD, GIFT BOXES, JUNK MAIL, SCHOOL PAPER, OFFICE PAPER, COMPUTER PAPER, TELEPHONE BOOKS

PLASTICS: SODA BOTTLES, MILK CONTAINERS, WATER CONTAINERS, FOOD BOTTLES

GLASS: SODA BOTTLES, BEER BOTTLES, FOOD JARS
(NO PLASTIC AND/OR GLASS HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL OR DETERGENT CONTAINERS)

CANS: ALUMINUM, TIN, STEEL
(NO CHEMICAL OR PAINT CANS)

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD PICK UP DAY IS WEDNESDAY. REMEMBER, PAPER PRODUCTS SHOULD BE SEPARATE BUT GLASS, PLASTIC AND METAL CAN BE GROUPED TOGETHER.

OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE

Riverview Neighborhood Association would like to thank Kathy Brennan, the long-time editor of the RNA newsletter for her time and effort in making this paper a well known and well respected publication throughout the City. Kathy is retiring from this assignment to pursue other interests. She will be greatly missed, not only because of her unselfish work in putting it together each and every month - nine months of the year - but also for her unique editorial and "people" standards in editing this community paper. RNA thanks you, Ms. Brennan and will forever be in your debt.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

EDITOR: Kathy Brennan
ART WORK: Raquel Sweeney, Larry Mason
CONTRIBUTORS: Carin Lewis, Dee Ipsaro, Maria Tuzzo, Vito Brunetti, Ted Conrad, Hank Cesari
CIRCULATION: Mrs. Tuzzo, Debbie Torres, Jack Rea

SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT RNA MEETING ON FRIDAY, April 12th, AT 7:30 P.M.

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
232 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307

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RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RNA

Vito Brunetti
Chairperson

Marie Lannie
Vice-chairperson

Maria Tuzzo
Secretary

Jack Rea
Treasurer

Dennis Elgrim
Sgt. at Arms

Theodore Conrad
Historical Advisor

COMMITTEES:

NEWSLETTER
Kathy Brennan

PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
Hank Cesari

ENVIRONMENT
Ann Hart

HOMESTEAD REBATE PROGRAM

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE UP TO $500 FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY IF YOU ARE A RENTER OR HOMEOWNER. YOU MUST FILE A N.J. 1040 STATE TAX FORM. THE REBATE IS PART OF THE FORM THIS YEAR. THE FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE LIBRARY OR THE POST OFFICE. FILL OUT THE FORM TO LINE 19C, SIGN AND COMPLETE THE REBATE APPLICATION ON THE BACK OF THE 1040 FORM.